

**Table 408.—Average reading, mathematics, and science literacy scores<sup>1</sup> of 15-year-olds, by sex:  
Selected countries, 2000**

Country	Reading literacy			Mathematics literacy			Science literacy		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
OECD total <sup>2</sup> .....	499 (2.0)	485 (2.3)	514 (2.0)	498 (2.1)	504 (2.6)	493 (2.3)	502 (2.0)	502 (2.5)	503 (2.0)
OECD average <sup>3</sup> .....	500 (0.6)	485 (0.8)	517 (0.7)	500 (0.7)	506 (1.0)	495 (0.9)	500 (0.7)	501 (0.9)	501 (0.8)
Australia .....	528 (3.5)	513 (4.0)	546 (4.7)	533 (3.5)	539 (4.1)	527 (5.1)	528 (3.5)	526 (3.9)	529 (4.8)
Austria .....	507 (2.4)	495 (3.2)	520 (3.6)	515 (2.5)	530 (4.0)	503 (3.7)	519 (2.6)	526 (3.8)	514 (4.3)
Belgium .....	507 (3.6)	492 (4.2)	525 (4.9)	520 (3.9)	524 (4.6)	518 (5.2)	496 (4.3)	496 (5.2)	498 (5.6)
Canada .....	534 (1.6)	519 (1.8)	551 (1.7)	533 (1.4)	539 (1.8)	529 (1.6)	529 (1.6)	529 (1.9)	531 (1.7)
Czech Republic .....	492 (2.4)	473 (4.1)	510 (2.5)	498 (2.8)	504 (4.4)	492 (3.0)	511 (2.4)	512 (3.8)	511 (3.2)
Denmark .....	497 (2.4)	485 (3.0)	510 (2.9)	514 (2.4)	522 (3.1)	507 (3.0)	481 (2.8)	488 (3.9)	476 (3.5)
Finland .....	546 (2.6)	520 (3.0)	571 (2.8)	536 (2.2)	537 (2.8)	536 (2.6)	538 (2.5)	534 (3.5)	541 (2.7)
France .....	505 (2.7)	490 (3.5)	519 (2.7)	517 (2.7)	525 (4.1)	511 (2.8)	500 (3.2)	504 (4.2)	498 (3.8)
Germany .....	484 (2.5)	468 (3.2)	502 (3.9)	490 (2.5)	498 (3.1)	483 (4.0)	487 (2.4)	489 (3.4)	487 (3.4)
Greece .....	474 (5.0)	456 (6.1)	493 (4.6)	447 (5.6)	451 (7.7)	444 (5.4)	461 (4.9)	457 (6.1)	464 (5.2)
Hungary .....	480 (4.0)	465 (5.3)	496 (4.3)	488 (4.0)	492 (5.2)	485 (4.9)	496 (4.2)	496 (5.8)	497 (5.0)
Iceland .....	507 (1.5)	488 (2.1)	528 (2.1)	514 (2.3)	513 (3.1)	518 (2.9)	496 (2.2)	495 (3.4)	499 (3.0)
Ireland .....	527 (3.2)	513 (4.2)	542 (3.6)	503 (2.7)	510 (4.0)	497 (3.4)	513 (3.2)	511 (4.2)	517 (4.2)
Italy .....	487 (2.9)	469 (5.1)	507 (3.6)	457 (2.9)	462 (5.3)	454 (3.8)	478 (3.1)	474 (5.6)	483 (3.9)
Japan .....	522 (5.2)	507 (6.7)	537 (5.4)	557 (5.5)	561 (7.3)	553 (5.9)	550 (5.5)	547 (7.2)	554 (5.9)
Korea, Republic of .....	525 (2.4)	519 (3.8)	533 (3.7)	547 (2.8)	559 (4.6)	532 (5.1)	552 (2.7)	561 (4.3)	541 (5.1)
Luxembourg .....	441 (1.6)	429 (2.6)	456 (2.3)	446 (2.0)	454 (3.0)	439 (3.2)	443 (2.3)	441 (3.6)	448 (3.2)
Mexico .....	422 (3.3)	411 (4.2)	432 (3.8)	387 (3.4)	393 (4.5)	382 (3.8)	422 (3.2)	423 (4.2)	419 (3.9)
Netherlands <sup>4</sup> .....	—	517 (4.8)	547 (3.8)	—	569 (4.9)	558 (4.6)	—	529 (6.3)	529 (5.1)
New Zealand .....	529 (2.8)	507 (4.2)	553 (3.8)	537 (3.1)	536 (5.0)	539 (4.1)	528 (2.4)	523 (4.6)	535 (3.8)
Norway .....	505 (2.8)	486 (3.8)	529 (2.9)	499 (2.8)	506 (3.8)	495 (2.9)	500 (2.8)	499 (4.1)	505 (3.3)
Poland .....	479 (4.5)	461 (6.0)	498 (5.5)	470 (5.5)	472 (7.5)	468 (6.3)	483 (5.1)	486 (6.1)	480 (6.5)
Portugal .....	470 (4.5)	458 (5.0)	482 (4.6)	454 (4.1)	464 (4.7)	446 (4.7)	459 (4.0)	456 (4.8)	462 (4.2)
Spain .....	493 (2.7)	481 (3.4)	505 (2.8)	476 (3.1)	487 (4.3)	469 (3.3)	491 (3.0)	492 (3.5)	491 (3.6)
Sweden .....	516 (2.2)	499 (2.6)	536 (2.5)	510 (2.5)	514 (3.2)	507 (3.0)	512 (2.5)	512 (3.5)	513 (2.9)
Switzerland .....	494 (4.3)	480 (4.9)	510 (4.5)	529 (4.4)	537 (5.3)	523 (4.8)	496 (4.4)	500 (5.7)	493 (4.7)
United Kingdom .....	523 (2.6)	512 (3.0)	537 (3.4)	529 (2.5)	534 (3.5)	526 (3.7)	532 (2.7)	535 (3.4)	531 (4.0)
United States .....	504 (7.1)	490 (8.4)	518 (6.2)	493 (7.6)	497 (8.9)	490 (7.3)	499 (7.3)	497 (8.9)	502 (6.5)
<b>Non-OECD countries</b>									
Brazil .....	396 (3.1)	388 (3.9)	404 (3.4)	334 (3.7)	349 (4.7)	322 (4.7)	375 (3.3)	376 (4.8)	376 (3.8)
Latvia .....	458 (5.3)	432 (5.5)	485 (5.4)	463 (4.5)	467 (5.3)	460 (5.6)	460 (5.6)	449 (6.4)	472 (5.8)
Liechtenstein .....	483 (4.1)	468 (7.3)	500 (6.8)	514 (7.0)	521 (11.5)	510 (11.1)	476 (7.1)	484 (10.9)	468 (9.3)
Russian Federation .....	462 (4.2)	443 (4.5)	481 (4.1)	478 (5.5)	478 (5.7)	479 (6.2)	460 (4.7)	453 (5.4)	467 (5.2)

—Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Scales were designed to have an average score of 500 points, and standard deviation of 100.

<sup>2</sup>Refers to the mean of the data values for all OECD countries, to which each country contributes equally, regardless of the absolute size of the student population of each country.

<sup>3</sup>Refers to the average for OECD countries as a single entity, to which each country contributes in proportion to the number of 15-year-olds enrolled in its schools.

<sup>4</sup>Response rate is too low to ensure comparability with other countries.

<sup>2</sup>Refers to the mean of the data values for all OECD countries, to which each country contributes equally, regardless of the absolute size of the student population of each country.

<sup>3</sup>Refers to the average for OECD countries as a single entity, to which each country contributes in proportion to the number of 15-year-olds enrolled in its schools.

NOTE: Standard errors appear in parentheses.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), *Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), Knowledge and Skills for Life, 2000*. (This table was prepared August 2002.)